

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The editorial staff of the *Alaska Law Review* is pleased to present our June 2009 issue. We selected three articles and one note for publication, and we hope these pieces will interest our readers.

The first article, written by Jeffrey Fisher, considers the implications of the Supreme Court's recent opinion in the *Exxon Valdez* case both for the Court's punitive damages jurisprudence and for constitutional regulation of punishment. The second article, written by James Fayette, surveys Alaska criminal discovery procedure. The third article, written by Michael Schwaiger, describes Alaska's judicial system before statehood and tells the story of Alaska's floating court. The note, written by Timothy Mullins, considers the law surrounding Alaska ballot initiatives through the lens of the defeated Clean Water Initiative.

We also invite our readers to visit our Online Articles Forum to read an article co-written by Susan Reeves, Michael Jungreis, Tina Sellers, and Jim Wilkson. Responding to an article about Pebble Mine that we published in our June 2008 issue, the authors argue that the current mine permitting process is adequate and that barring property owners from developing known mine deposits constitutes a compensable taking.

We hope that our readers will also visit our website to read our 2008 Year in Review. Our Year in Review provides short summaries of the majority of Alaska's state and federal cases from the past year, and we hope our readers continue to find the resource useful.

With the publication of this issue, my term as Editor-in-Chief officially comes to an end. I am grateful to Mauricio Almar, the *ALR* Editor-in-Chief for 2007-08, who has been deeply generous with his enthusiasm and counsel this past year. I also want to thank my parents: my father, a lifelong commercial fisherman who keeps me supplied with salmon even when I am far from home, and my mother, who read to her children as often as they wanted. Based in Anchorage, they have been great assets to the *Alaska Law Review* this past year.

Finally, and most importantly, the *Alaska Law Review* would like to thank the Alaska Bar members, without whom we would not exist. We are truly grateful for the opportunity you have given us to learn about and connect with the Alaska legal community and for your many years of support. On behalf of the outgoing editorial staff and the incoming editorial staff, thank you.

As always, we welcome feedback and suggestions.

Kelly Taylor